

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TUNIS 02180 271710Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OPIC-06 EB-08 NEAE-00 SSO-00
/037 W

-----005723 271732Z /50

O P 271648Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 497
INFO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

UNCLAS TUNIS 2180

DEPT PASS OPIC; ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BTRA, OPIC, TS
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF VICTOR BERREBI

REF: A. TUNIS 1447 (NOTAL); B. ATHENS 2288 (NOTAL)

1. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SECTION WAS CONTACTED BY VICTOR BERREBI, WELL-KNOWN AND SUCCESSFUL TUNISIAN ENTREPRENEUR AND A LEADER OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY, WHO SPOKE TO US ABOUT HIS UPCOMING (APRIL 2-10) TRIP TO THE U.S. IN THE PAST BERREBI HAS BEEN CONSIDERED FOR VARIOUS USG SPONSORED TRIPS TO THE U.S., BUT WE HAVE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF SUCH A VISIT.

2. BERREBI'S COMPANIES MANUFACTURE VARIOUS METAL PRODUCTS, E.G., GAS BOTTLES, PIPES, BOILERS, STEEL STRUCTURES, ETC. HE IS NOW INVOLVED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STEEL PLANT IN BIZERTE. BERREBI IS WELL-KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY JTDP BWOULD LIKE TO SEE CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN VARIOUS USG AGENCIES INVOLVED IN TRADE AND INVESTMENT, I.E., COMMERCE AND OPIC, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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BERREBI. BERREBI'S BUSINESS VENTURES ARE USUALLY SUCCESSFUL AND HE IS A CONTACT THAT BOTH THE EMBASSY AND OPIC OFFICER TREADWELL BELIEVE WORTH DEVELOPING.

3. BERREBI PLANS TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON APRIL 2 WITH HIS WIFE AND SON. HE PLANS TO SPEND 2-3 DAYS IN WASHINGTON AND THEN LEAVE FOR THE WEST COAST. WE THINK IT

APPROPRIATE THAT NEA/AFN, CAGNE AND OPIC ARRANGE
APPROPRIATE MEETINGS WITH AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN, AND
THAT OPIC TAKE THE LEAD IN ORGANIZING SUCH A PROGRAM.

4. REFTELS REPORT BERREBI'S INTEREST IN PURCHASING
A 32 TON CRANE. SO FAR THE ATHENS OFFICE OF CLYDE
CRANES (DULUTH, MINN.) HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST.
CAGNE MIGHT CONSIDER FOLLOWING UP WITH BERREBI IN
THIS TRADE OPPORTUNITY.

5. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO GIVE BERREBI SOME IDEA OF
ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR HIM WHILE IN THE U.S. REQUEST
YOU TELEGRAM PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE BY C.O.B. MARCH 29,
OR TELEPHONE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR MONTGOMERY EARLY IN
THE DAY ON MARCH 30.
MULCAHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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